

COSELEY EDUCATION AUTHORITY.

Annual Report

OF THE

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

OF THE

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

(I. MORTADA, M.A., Cantab., M.R.C.S., Eng., L.R.C.P., Lond.)

FOR THE YEAR 1917.

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FOR THE YEAR 1917.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children within your area for the year 1917.

MEDICAL INSPECTION STAFF.

I. MORTADA, Deputy School Medical Officer ; also Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

CYRIL S. RIGBY, Assistant School Medical Officer.

In addition, two Nurses were appointed ás from January 1st, one for the Eastern division and one for the Western division of the District, half their time to be devoted to the School Medical Service.

The number of children inspected during the year was 1,222, being 586 boys and 636 girls as compared with 1,106 in 1916.

The schools examined number nine, six being Council Schools and three non-provided schools.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

SCARLET FEVER.

Twenty cases of Scarlet Fever were notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the year, as compared with forty-eight in the previous year, and no deaths as compared with two in 1916.

DIPHTHERIA.

Two cases of this disease were notified as compared with six in 1916, of which one died as compared with three deaths the previous year.

MEASLES.

There was a severe epidemic of Measles early in the year, 413 cases were notified, and 29 died. In consequence of this, Daisy Bank Infant School had to be closed from March 26th for a fortnight, the end of this period coinciding with the Easter holidays. Unfortunately, when the holidays were over, I found it necessary to prolong the closure of that school for a further period of eleven days, owing to the extent of infection amongst the scholars.

In addition to the above school, Christ Church Infants' School was closed for two weeks from April 25th. Also Hurst Hill Infants' School for the same period from May 21st.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Ten deaths were registered from this disease, as compared with three the previous year.

SCHOOL NURSES.

Considerable effort has been made during the year to bring the School Medical Service to the desired standard of efficiency. The two School Nurses appointed by you have been a great benefit to the District. They attend each of the Medical Inspections, follow up all the excluded cases and see that they are getting the attention required. They make special visits to schools, apart from the Medical Inspections, for the purpose of examining the person and clothing of the scholars.

A Table, giving summary of their work, is embodied in the report.



RE-EXAMINATION OF DEFECTIVE CASES FOUND.

Arrangements have also been made for the routine re-examination of defective cases found at the Medical Inspections. This adds considerably to the value of the Inspections as continual Medical supervision is assured. Owing to the absence of such an arrangement, I have not been able to complete the Tables required by The Board of Education for the year under consideration.

EYES.

By your directions, endeavours have been made to arrange for regular visits to your District of an Oculist for the purpose of examining school children. Unfortunately, owing to the great demand on their services in connection with war work, none of them could spare the time. So that part of the scheme was unavoidably postponed for a more favourable period.

TEETH.

The teeth of a large proportion of the scholars in your District are poor. It would be of great advantage if arrangements could be made for a qualified Dentist to visit the Schools at regular intervals for the benefit of those scholars who may need his attention.

It is notorious that bad teeth have a detrimental effect not only in the physical state of a child but also on the mental state.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

The establishment of a School Clinic for the treatment of minor ailments is greatly needed in your District. No scheme of School Medical Service can be said to be complete without it. It is not sufficient to find out that a child is ailing, if no steps are taken within some measure to remedy the defect.

Such a centre may be easily established and with little cost, either in conjunction with The Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres, about to be established in the District, or independent of them if thought more convenient.

In conclusion, I have to thank your Secretary for the willing help he has rendered me during the past year.

I also wish to express my appreciation of the work done by the School Nurses, and the assistance rendered by the Teachers.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

I. MORTADA.

TABLE I.

**Number of Children Inspected 1st January, 1917,
to 31st December, 1917.**

A.—“CODE” GROUPS.

		Entrants.					TOTAL.
Age	...	3.	4.	5.	6.	Other Ages.	
Boys	...	22	49	133	7	1	212
Girls	...	20	55	165	13	3	256
Totals	...	42	104	298	20	4	468

		INTERMEDIATE GROUP.				Leavers.		GRAND TOTAL.
Age	...	8.	12.	13.	14.	Other Ages.	TOTAL.	
Boys	...	206	159	9	—	—	374	586
Girls	...	229	137	14	—	—	380	636
Total	...	435	296	23	—	—	754	1,222

B.—GROUPS OTHER THAN “CODE.” *

(1)		Intermediate Group (other than 8 years. (2)	Special Cases. (3)	Re-Examination (<i>i.e.</i> No. of Children Re-examined. (4)
Boys	...		25	
Girls	...		38	
Totals	...		63	

TABLE II.
Return of Defects found in the Course of Medical Inspection
in 1917.

Defect or Disease.					"Code" Groups.		Specials.	
					Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
SKIN	Malnutrition	...	...	...	—	—
	Uncleanliness—							
	Head	...	...	...	51	132		
	Body	...	...	...	1	86		
	Ringworm—							
	Head	...	...	...	—	—
	Body	...	...	...	—	1		
	Scabies	...	...	...	11	6		
EYE	Impetigo	...	...	...	8	11		
	Other Disease	...	...	...	7	8		
EAR	Defective Vision and Squint	...	...	...	48	37		
	External Eye Disease	...	...	...	7	29		
TEETH	Defective Hearing	...	...	...	—	4		
	Ear Disease	...	...	...	15	20		
NOSE AND THROAT	Dental Disease (see N.B. 2 below)	...	...	...	88	321		
	Enlarged Tonsils	...	...	...	62	165		
	Adenoids	...	...	...	4	4		
	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	28	23		
	Defective Speech	...	...	...	—	14		
HEART AND CIRCULATION	Heart Disease—							
	Organic	...	...	...	—	—
	Functional	...	...	...	—	—
	Anæmia	...	...	...	2	35		
LUNGS	Pulmonary Tuberculosis—							
	Definite	...	...	...	—	—
	Suspected	...	...	...	—	—
	Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	...	24	41		
	Other Diseases	...	...	...	3	12		
NERVOUS SYSTEM	Epilepsy	...	...	...	—	—
	Chorea	...	...	...	—	—
	Other Disease	...	...	...	—	—
	Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis—							
	Glands	...	...	...	13	92		
	Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—	—
	Other Forms	...	...	...	—	—
	Rickets	...	...	...	—	1		
	Deformities	...	...	...	1	3		
	Other Defects or Diseases	...	...	...	—	2		

TABLE III.

Numerical Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area in 1917.

		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
BLIND (including partially blind).	Attending Public Elementary Schools	—	—	—
	Attending Certified Schools for the Blind... ..	—	1	1
	Not at School			
DEAF AND DUMB (including partially deaf).	Attending Public Elementary Schools	—	—	—
	Attending Certified Schools for the Deaf	—	2	2
	Not at School			

TABLE V.

Inspection, Treatment, &c., of Children during 1917.

(1) The total number of children medically inspected (whether Code Group, special or ailing child)	1,222
(2) The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment)	516
(3) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	213
(4) The number of children in (3) who receive treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	

Summary of Work done by Nurses Griffiths and Evans.

DEFECTS.	Cured.	Improving.	Un-Changed.	Un-Treated.	TOTALS.
Tuberculosis and Phthisis	4	3	1	—	8
Tonsils, Adenoids & Enlarged Glands	19	2	17	32	70
Vision ... —	14	2	12	26	54
Blepharitis and other Diseases ...	7	2	—	—	9
Conjunctivitis	1	—	—	—	1
Strabismus	—	—	—	—	—
Deafness	1	—	—	—	1
Otorrhoea and other Diseases ...	23	2	2	1	28
Eczema	7	—	1	—	8
Ringworm	13	—	—	—	13
Scabies	67	6	2	—	75
Impetigo	125	—	3	1	129
General Neglect	9	1	2	1	13
Verminous, including Nits	355	33	2	—	390
Malnutrition	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	28	1	—	—	29
Mentally Defective	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	1	—	1
Chorea and Epilepsy	—	—	—	—	—
Special	40	13	6	4	63
Miscellaneous	42	21	11	2	76
Infectious Diseases	133	—	—	—	133
GRAND TOTALS ...	888	86	60	67	1,101

No. of Cases Visited	1,089
„ Re-Visits	923
„ Visits to Schools	33
„ Medical Inspections	57
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,102

